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PATENT

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12-29-01  
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Amtdt. B

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant : Diab et al.  
Appl. No. : 09/757,444  
Filed : January 9, 2001  
For : SIGNAL PROCESSING  
APPARATUS AND METHOD  
Examiner : Unknown

Group Art Unit Unit 3736

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-mentioned patent application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please replace the original Claims 41-66 with the following clean versions of amended Claims 41-66. For convenience, all pending claims are presented below, with the respective status of each claim shown in parentheses after the claim number. Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to Claims 41-66. The attached page is captioned: Version With Markings to Show Changes Made, in which insertions to the amended claims are underlined and deletions appear as strikethrough text.

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